State/U.T.	IOC	BPC	HPC	Total
Punjab	250	98	71	419
Rajasthan	203	114	112	429
Sikkim	7	0	0	7
Tamil Nadu	389	149	122	660
Tripura	29	0	0	29
Uttar Pradesh	706	279	188	1173
Uttarakhand	131	17	18	166
W. Bengal	293	74	105	472
ALL INDIA	4988	2135	2231	9354

Promotion of religious and rural tourism

1989. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes being envisaged to promote religious and rural tourism in the country;

(b) whether there is any promotional scheme to provide more funds particularly to those backward regions that have immense potential of tourism;

(c) if so, whether Government would consider providing funds to a poor State like Bihar that has immense potential of religious tourism since it has famous religious places; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and funds to be provided, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (b) Development and promotion of tourism is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. Ministry of Tourism, however, provides financial assistances to States/ Union Territories for development and promotion of tourist destinations and circuits including religious and rural tourism sites on the basis of project proposals received from them subject to availability of funds and inter-se priority.

The Ministry has sanctioned Rs. 59240.12 lakh for 248 projects in the country during the current financial year upto February, 2008. Out of this Rs. 785.82 lakh has been sanctioned for 2 projects in Bihar.

Road map for tourism promotion

1990. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any road map for tourism promotion has been drawn up for deveopment in the next ten years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to meet the shortage of hotels/accommodation and infrastructural facilities in important tourist circuits in the country?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) Development and promotion of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State/UT Governments. However, to facilitate development of places of tourist interest in a systematic and wholistic manner, the Ministry of Tourism had commissioned 20-year perspective plans for States/ UTs at the beginning of 10th Five year Plan. These perspective plans, which give action plans for tourism development in the short term and long term, were sent to the State/UT Governments to guide them in initiating action for development and promotion of tourism during the 11th Plan.

(c) To facilitate augmentation of hotel accommodation for tourists, the Government has asked all the State/UT Government and other land owning agencies including Indian Railways to allocate land for building hotels, especially in the budget category. They have also been advised to follow investor friendly land policies, adopt single window approach for promoting hotel projects, allot sites on revenue sharing basis, grant extra FAR/FSI for hotels, etc. Further, in order to increase the number of rooms in the budget category, Ministry of Tourism has floated schemes for the approval of guest houses and Incredible India Bed & Breakfast establishments.

For development of tourism infrastructure, the Ministry provides financial assistance to State/UT Governments, based on project proposals received from them, under the schemes of 'Product/Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuits' and 'Assistance for Large Revenue Generating Projects'. During the 10th Five Year Plan, the Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned Rs. 2012.02 crore for 1160 projects to State/UT Governments.

Special tourist circuit in Assam

1991. SHRI URKHAO GWRA BRAHMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any special initiative has been taken to establish tourist circuit at Manas National Park and development of tourism at Orang National Park of Bodoland area of Assam with special earmark of adequate funds;

(b) whether the revenue collection from the above two National parks is increasing satisfactorily according to the record of last three years;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the resons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) Yes, Sir.

The Ministry of Tourism provides funds on the basis of project proposals received from the State Governments/Union Territories for grant of central financial assistance every year under the following schemes;

(i) Product/Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuits

(ii) Large Revenue Generating projects

(iii) Fairs and festivals/Events

(iv) Information Technology